

August 21, 2014  
Maine Milk Commission Meeting Minutes  
Deering Building, Room 319  
Augusta, Maine 04333

Notices for the August 21, 2014 meeting were distributed to Commission members, intervenors and other interested parties on July 25, 2014 and sent to the Secretary of State's Office for posting on July 25, 2014.

**Commission Present:** Mike Wiers, Colon Durrell, Richard Cook, Stanley Millay and Matt Randall, *ex-officio*

**Commission Absent:** None

**Department Officials:** None

**Staff Present:** Tim Drake, Executive Director and Carol Gauthier, Office Associate

**Legal Counsel:** Not Present

**Others Present:** Tom Brigham of Oakhurst Dairy, John Blake, H.P. Hood, Shelley F. Doak, Maine Grocers and Food Producers Association, Fred Hardy and Dale Cole of MDIA, Douglas Carr, of Carr Consulting, Clayton Davis, DFA/DMS, Chris Pelletier of Delhaize and Ruby Hardy, members of the public.

Chairman Wiers called the meeting to order at 10:31 a.m.

**Agenda Item 1: Minutes:** Richard Cook made a motion to accept the minutes of the July 25, 2014 meeting, Colon Durrell seconded the motion. Motion passed 4-0.

**Agenda Item 2: Lauren Parker, Assistant Attorney General:**  
Not Present

**Agenda Item 3: Minimum Prices:**

Tim Drake reported that a prevailing premium of \$1.10/cwt. on Class I for September 2014, Dairy Marketing Services (DMS) and AgriMark Co-op had been reported. In addition to this premium, DMS and AgriMark reported that an additional \$0.43/cwt for milk that comes from producers who do not treat their cows with the rBST hormone will be in effect. Federal Order One Class I price for September is \$26.88, a decrease of \$0.24/cwt. He explained that a schedule was prepared using this information plus a producer cost of production adjustment (COPA) of \$1.16/cwt. He stated that this price schedule was for informational purposes and that the Commission was not bound to it, and should make their pricing determination after hearing testimony.

Chairman Wiers asked for testimony.

There were none.

Colon Durrell stated that with the decrease in the Class I price being modest he saw no reason to make any changes to the producer margin at this time and made a motion to accept order #09-14 with a producer margin of \$1.16/cwt.

Richard Cook seconded the motion.

Chairman Wiers called for a vote on the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

**Agenda Item 4: Maine Monthly Price Survey:** The Commission reviewed the Maine price survey for August 2014 which showed retail prices for Augusta, Scarborough, South Portland, Brunswick, Biddeford, Bangor and Brewer.

**Agenda Item 5: Next Scheduled Meetings:**

- September 18, 2014, 10:30 a.m.  
Room 319, Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Augusta ME
- October 23, 2014, 10:30 a.m.  
Room 233, Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Augusta ME
- November 20, 2014, 10:30 a.m.  
Room 233, Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Augusta ME
- December 18, 2014, 10:30 a.m.  
Room 233, Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Forestry, Augusta ME

**Agenda Item 6: Other:**

1. **Monthly Financial Report:** The financial report FY15 was reviewed.
2. **Chapter 27, Retail Margins:** Colon Durrell started the discussion by asking how much volume of the milk sold in Maine is in gallons. It was put forward that perhaps close to 60% was sold as gallons. Chairman Wiers stated that the Commission had not implemented the results of the Processor study and did not know if that was good or bad but noted that the retail margin impacts the consumer the least and was in favor of adopting the new margins as reported by the study unchanged. Stanley Millay addressed the Maine Grocers and Food Producers Association comments by stating that in his opinion the border stores have always been at a disadvantage but that not just with milk, all products sold and taxed in Maine were affected. He also stated that there was no testimony offered to support not adopting the new retail rates of return. Chairman Wiers agreed, as did Richard Cook. Colon Durrell stated that even though there was a small amount of milk sold in Maine at minimum prices he thought that the increase for the half gallons and quarts could be detrimental to Maine consumers at this time. Matt Randall stated that he had been in a small convenience store recently that had gallons of milk priced at \$5.25; he went on to say that if we spend the time and money to do the studies we should implement the findings as long as the studies were correct. Stan Millay made a motion to adopt the findings of 2012 Retail Margins study as presented in exhibit B of the report. Richard Cook seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

**Agenda Item 7: Executive Session:** None

**Adjourned:** Adjourned; 10:49 a.m. August 21, 2014.  
Tim Drake, Maine Milk Commission